

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00701 041644Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
/077 W

-----041657Z 129259 /46

O 041618Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6053
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0701

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR SF US XA
SUBJ: NEWS REPORT ON NAMIBIA TALKS

REF: A) CAPE TOWN 0668, B) CAPE TOWN 0679

1. SUMMARY: IN MOST DETAILED AND KNOWLEDGEABLE LOCAL PRESS
REPORTING TO DATE ON NAMIBIA TALKS, ARGUS PUBLISHED ARTICLE
AFTERNOON MAY 4, DATELINED WINDHOEK, DISCUSSING PLANS FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF "ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY" TO BE PROCLAIMED
BY STATE PRESIDENT, NATIONAL ELECTIFD INCLUDING SWAPO, AND
OTHER POINTS. POSITIVE, REASSURING TONE OF ARTICLE
WAS ALSO REFLECTED IN MUDGE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00701 041644Z

SPEECH MADE EARLIER IN WEEK. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

2. MAY 4 EDITION CAPE TOWN NEWSPAPER THE ARGUS
INCLUDED REPORT ON NAMIBIA TALKS WIRTTEN BY CORRESPONDENT
CLIVE COWLEY IN WINDEHEOK, WHICH MADE FOLLIWNG POINTS:

ALTHOUGH DETAILS REMAIN UNRESOLVED, "PROSPECTS WERE NEVER BETTER" FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN SWA.

ORIGINAL PLANS FOR AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT WILL CHANGE DRASTICALLY TO ACCOMMODATE UN OBJECTIONS. TURNHALLE DRAFT CONSTITUTION WILL NO LONGER PASS THROUGH S.A. PARLIAMENT AND BECOME LAW. INSTEAD, STATE PRESIDENT WILL ESTABLISH BY PROCLAMATION A "LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE" AUTHORITY "WHICH WILL PROBABLY AMOUNT TO A TRUNCATED VERSION OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION WITH THE VITAL FRAMEWORK FOR INTERIM GOVERNMENT RETAINED AND THE OFFENSIVE DETAILS OMITTED. TURNHALLE SOURCES INSIST THAT INTERIM GOVERNMENT WILL BE BASED ON ETHNIC REPRESENTATION AND THAT THEY WILL BE THE PEOPLE WHO RUN IT."

NATIONAL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE WITH SWAPO PARTICIPATION AND "INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATION OR SUPERVISION." EXILES AND MARXIST/LENINIST PARTIES WILL NOT BE BARRED FROM PARTICIPATION. "THE BIG QUESTION IS WHETHER SWAPO WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS WHERE THE WINNER REQUIRES A MAJORITY VOTE IN THE MAJORITY OF ETHNIC GROUPS. THE MODERATES IN THE TURNHALLE WILL AGREE TO NO OTHER

CONTEXT AS THEIR POLITICAL SURVIVAL DEPENDS ON IT." SWAPO MAY NOT BE WILLING, BUT IN THIS CASE TURNHALLE WOULD WIN "A LITTLE INTERNATIONAL RESPECTABILITY" THROUGH WILLINGNESS "TO SUBMIT THEMSELVES TO A DEMOCRATIC TEST."

SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE ALLOWED TO MAINTAIN ITS PRESENCE UNTIL SUCH A TIME AS AN INDEPENDENT SWA REQUESTS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00701 041644Z

ITS WITHDRAWAL, NOTWITHSTANDING ITS ILLEGALITY IN TERMS OF UN DECISIONS.

3. DIR MUDGE ALSO APPROACHED SUBJECT IN POSITIVE TONE AT HENTIES BAY EARLIER IN WEEK. ADDRESSING A PRE-REFERENDUM MEETING, MUDGE SAID THERE WOULD BE SEVERE REPERCUSSION FOR S.A. IN THE U.N. IF TALKS FAILED. JUDGE SAID: "IT IS MY CONVICTION THAT THESE TALKS BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FIVE WESTERN POWERS ARE TO BE WELCOMED AND IT IS NECESSARY THAT THEY SHOULD TAKE PLACE...I AM CERTAIN THAT WE CAN EXPECT ONLY GOOD TO COME FOR THESE TALKS... THE PARTIES CONCERNED ARE BUSY WITH SOMETHING EXTREMELY DELICATE." MUDGE SAID THE WEST WANTED TO MAINTAIN ITS INFLUENCE IN AFRICA, IN PART BECAUSE OF AFRICAN INFLUENCE AT THE U.N., AND ALSO TO AVOID CHASING "AFRICAN INTO THE ARMS OF THE COMMUNISTS." MUDGE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR PAST WESTERN VETOS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. REFERRING TO SWAPO, MUDGE SAID OPPONENTS OF TURNHALLE WOULD HAVE TO PROVE THEMSELVES AT THE POLLS AT A FUTURE DATE. HE

SAID IT WOULD BE WRONG TO BAN SWAPO AS A POLITICAL PARTY,
AND THAT THEY SHOULD RATHER BE BEATEN AT THE POLLS. NELSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAPET00701
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770156-0724
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770597/aaaadfmg.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1cb9309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAPE TOWN 668, 77 CAPE TOWN 679
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2648496
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEWS REPORT ON NAMIBIA TALKS
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, SF, US, XA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1cb9309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009